

# **NOTTS COUNTY SUPPORTERS TRUST**



## **BOARD MEETING OPEN MINUTES**

Meeting No.	65
Date	Tuesday 17 April 2007
Time	8.00 p.m.
Venue	Plough Inn, St Peters Street, Nottingham
Version	1

### **Present**

Keri Usherwood (Chair), Nigel King (Vice Chair), John Collin (Secretary), Peter Dennis (Treasurer), Eric Kerry (Supporter Director), John Armstrong-Holmes, David Hindley, Gareth Marklew, Glenn Rolley, Stuart Rolley, Cheryl Thompson, Trevor Woolley.

### **1. Apologies For Absence**

Carole Stapleton,

### **2. Meeting Agenda**

Agreed.

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

EK as a Director of Blenheim 1862 Ltd.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of Meeting 64 were accepted as a true record with two minor amendments.

### **5. Treasurer's Special Report**

PD gave a report.

### **6. Jimmy Sirrel Portrait**

SR presented specimen work from four painters who had expressed interest in doing a Jimmy Sirrel portrait.

The painters were:

- A
- B
- C
- D John Townsend

Some discussion took place on how to finance the portrait and JAH agreed to be involved. After carefully considering the samples a vote was taken.

On a vote, A 0 votes, B 0 votes, C 4 votes, D 5 votes.

**John Townsend was therefore selected.**

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**At this point, it was resolved that the meeting should go on after 10.30, if necessary.**

### **7. Officers' Reports**

#### **a. Chair -- Keri Usherwood**

*"Just a couple of notable things since the last meeting.*

*Firstly, a constructive meeting with the other shareholders has taken place.*

*I attended the meeting with the Strategy Sub-Group and good progress has been made on putting this document together.*

*We have given our views on the ticket prices situation and await an announcement from the Club.*

*The meeting with the proposed new Marketing Director has still to take place as she has been away.*

*I will write to Supporters-Direct about our concerns about the future of football soon. I just want to wait to see if we get any responses from the programme article last Saturday.*

*Overall, things seem quite positive at the moment. It's amazing what a few wins and a flirt with the play-offs can do!"*

The Strategy Group was continuing to make progress and the Memorandum of Understanding was coming along.

It had not been possible to meet yet with the proposed new Marketing Director because she had been away.

#### **b. Treasurer – Peter Dennis/Eric Kerry**

PD reported that the bank balance stood at £13975.68 as at 17/4/07. There were still some sponsorships to come in and some money to bank. The overall balance was £15218.68.

**An expenses claim for £64.60 from NK was agreed.**

#### **c. Secretary – John Collin**

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JC reported that he had just received a cheque in settlement for the Staples vouchers, from JAH. This was passed on to PD.

### **8. Sub-Group Reports**

#### **a. PR**

**SR**

For the next newsletter, to be produced before the Open Day the following actions for contributions were agreed:

**Keri - Chair**

**SD - Eric**

**Beer Festival - Glenn**

**Raffle Winner + photo JAH**

**Community DH**

**Pub distribution SR**

**Radio Nottingham - Robin Chipperfield**

**Player/manager - Eric**

**Dave Stoakes - DS**

**Open Day DH/CT**

**1862 trip + photos KU + NK**

**Membership TW**

**Membership form - TW**

**AGM - JC**

**Elections - SR**

#### **b. Community**

**DH**

*“Preparations for the Community Open Day are underway. Thanks to those who have posted comments and suggestions for the event. I will need to delegate some of the organising beyond the CSC. For example, could the fundraising sub-committee look at whether it is possible to gain sponsors for the Open Day and possibly running a raffle? We have also talked about the possibility of hosting a mini-beer festival as part of the event - would this be feasible do you think?”*

*One pressing issue is that I need to start promoting the event ASAP so that it is in people's diaries, listings magazines etc. as well as approaching community organisations for stalls, exhibits and so on. Unfortunately the Open Day clashes with two events on the 15th July - the Nottingham Mela and One World, One City festival in Market Square, which will have a negative impact on the groups I was hoping to attract to the event.*

*Eric is it possible to get confirmation from Geoff Davey that all the coaching and playing staff will be there and that he is happy for us to start promoting*

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*the Open Day? GD also said that he would liaise with Les Bradd about organising something for the business community as part of the event - can you find out if this has happened please.*

*Moving onto other matters...*

*I have spoken to Graham Moran about plans to develop the Family Stand. He is keen to 'decorate' the area underneath the Family Stand, with possibly a mural depicting the Club's past. This is something that I would be keen to get involved in, and offers opportunities to work with both local artists and local schools, youth groups etc to be creative. I have already sounded out Brick and Pete Dredge about this.*

*This brings me neatly to the Big Draw. I am planning on meeting the cartoonists in the next week or so to start firming up plans for this October. My favourite idea on the 'drawing board' is to get supporters to design their own beer mats. I am sure we could get a local brewery involved to donate some blank beer mats (and some beer?) which could then be adorned with good luck messages, pictures of favourite players, Meadow Lane etc etc and then tied together to form a giant beer mat banner that can be displayed in the Meadow Club."*

DH highlighted the features of the report.

### **c. Membership, Recruitment, Retention**

**TW**

- "All changes and renewals received are entered onto database. Still approx 40 standing order queries to resolve with Pete.*
- Pete and I have sorted out a system to cross reference payments.*
- The reminder letters have generated over 100 renewals, therefore very worthwhile.*
- Database now contains 2106 entries, of which 624 are reported as 'lapsed. This leaves 1482 as active.*
- I have created 2 letters. One is to confirm the queries about membership, and the other to use when renewals are made. I will create these via mail merge and send out this week.*
- Recommend that renewal reminder letters are sent out before the open day. This will obviously incur cost, but the response to the last mail demonstrates the effectiveness of these. Perhaps we can combine a posting with a newsletter or something.*

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- *Nigel and I are arranging a database session together. Hopefully we will be able to produce even more meaningful data after that.*
- *Sub-Committee yet to meet due to my holidays and year-end pressures at work."*

TW outlined the report.

### **d. Fundraising**

**GR**

GR said that the requirement for a base at Meadow Lane was really pressing so that the recycling project can progress. He also said that fundraising needs to be debated so that it fits in with the Club.

### **9. Supporter Director's Report – Eric Kerry**

EK gave his report.

With regard to a home for the Trust, this was still active. KU agreed to talk to GD again on this subject with the "Open Day" the deadline.

The Meadow Club toilets are being refurbished in time for the "Player of the Year" function.

Next NCFC Board meeting is due on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007.

### **10. Any Other Business**

GR mentioned the proposed "Nottstalgia" book. This will be discussed again.

SR mentioned that other Trusts had shown an interest in the Beer festival and a presentation would be given to the EM Trust Meeting when it was next at Meadow Lane.

### **11. Date of Next Meeting**

22 May 2007.

The meeting ended at 11.00 p.m.